

Unsettled ahead of Christmas

Author: Press Office

12:31 (UTC) on Wed 20 Dec 2023

With low pressure dominating the outlook the UK will see some potentially disruptive weather with strong winds and periods of rain this week.

A notably deep area of [low pressure](#) will track to the north of the UK over the Norwegian Sea through Wednesday night and into Thursday. This is expected to bring very strong winds and heavy showers to a large portion of the UK, with a [Yellow National Severe Weather Warning](#) covering Scotland, Northern Ireland, Northern England and the north of Wales.

**Met Office**
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 Yellow weather warning UPDATED 

The yellow wind warning end time has been brought forward, and the warning impact level has been updated

Thursday 0000 - 2100

Latest info  bit.ly/WxWarning

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Wed 20 Dec No warnings	Thu 21 Dec 	Fri 22 Dec No warnings	Sat 23 Dec No warnings	Sun 24 Dec No warnings	Mon 25 Dec No warnings	Tue 26 Dec No warnings
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**Yellow warning**
Wind

00:00

UTC

21:00

Tomorrow

Tomorrow

Strong winds across a large swathe of the country Thursday, causing some travel disruption.

What to Expect

- Some bus and train services affected, with some journeys taking longer
- Some delays to road, rail, air and ferry transport expected
- Some short term loss of power and other services
- Coastal routes, sea fronts and coastal communities will be affected by spray and/or large waves
- Delays for high-sided vehicles on exposed routes and bridges

What should I do?

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Further Details >

Updated: 09:29 (UTC) on Wed 20 Dec 2023

Reason for update

Given higher confidence on wind strength, the impact level has been updated. The end time has also been brought forward.



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Met Office @metoffice

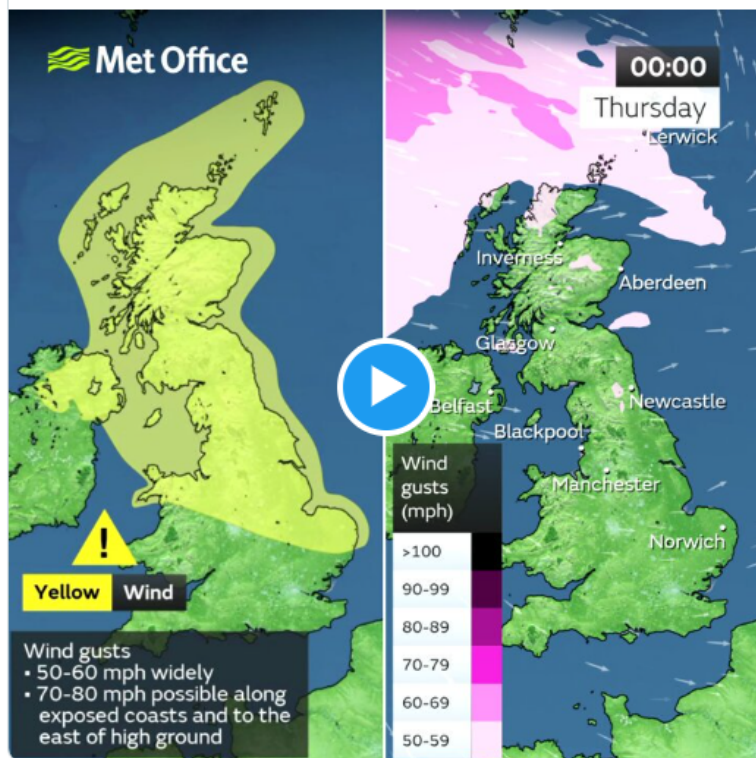
⚠️ Yellow weather warning issued ⚠️

Strong winds across central and northern areas of the UK

Thursday 0000 – 2359

Latest info ➡️ bit.ly/WxWarning

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10:33 AM · Dec 20, 2023



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Met Office Chief Meteorologist, Paul Gundersen, said: “From late Wednesday into Thursday, strong winds are likely to develop across a large area of the UK. We’ve issued a large yellow warning area where there’s a potential for some impacts, but gusts of 50-60mph are possible for large parts of central and northern areas of the UK.

“Exposed coasts and high ground could see gusts of 70-80mph at times, mainly across the far north of Scotland. There’s a chance this low pressure will continue to exert its influence into Friday, so it’s important to stay up to date with the latest Met Office forecast. This system has been named Storm Pia by the Danish Met Service, with the system likely to have more severe impacts in Denmark.”

It’ll remain windy for many on Friday, with further periods of rain likely to sweep in from the west, and some snow across the Northern Isles of Scotland.

Christmas weather forecast

It remains generally rather unsettled for the weekend before Christmas, with further Atlantic frontal systems bringing rain and strong winds to parts of the UK. Rain will be heaviest in the west and northwest through the weekend, with any snow most likely confined to high ground in northern Scotland. Some central and eastern areas of the UK could remain mostly dry.

There are still some uncertainties in the details of the forecast for Christmas Day, as Paul explained: “Christmas Day looks like being fairly unsettled in northern and western areas. Any showers in the north could be wintry with hail and thunder, but even here, any snow will be mainly on high ground. The south of the country will see the best of the drier and brighter conditions. While temperatures will be near normal for the time of year it will be a windy day for many meaning it will feel colder.

“Beyond Christmas Day further rain or showers and strong winds are likely for many, and again any sleet and snow will be mainly over the hills of Scotland, as is often the case in December. Further details will be available closer to the time.”

Further ahead

Looking towards the New Year, the weather looks to remain unsettled with low pressure bringing breezy and wet conditions for many, but there will be some drier and brighter interludes.

You can keep up to date with the latest forecast on our [website](#), by following us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#), as well as on our [mobile app](#) which is available for iPhone from the [App store](#) and for Android from the [Google Play store](#).



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